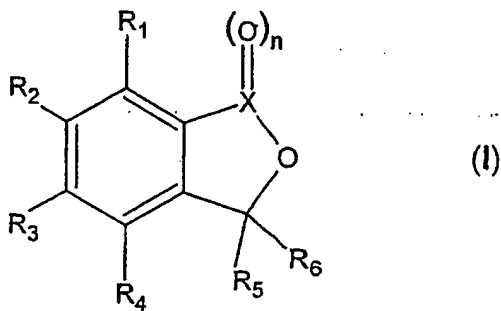


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

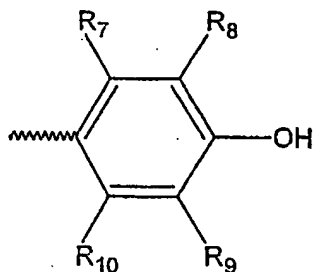
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) Test system for the determination of the presence of an antibiotic in a fluid comprising a test medium comprising a microorganism, at least one substance that provides a solid state and an indicator suitable for the detection of penicillin G, characterized in that said indicator is a compound having the general formula:



wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are independently of each other alkyl, halogen or hydrogen,

$X = C$ or S , $n = 1$ if $X = C$ and $n = 0, 1$ or 2 if $X = S$, and R_5 and R_6 are independently of each other:



wherein R_7 , R_8 and R_9 are, independently of each other alkyl, branched alkyl, hydrogen or halogen and R_{10} is alkyl or branched alkyl, or salts thereof.

2. (original) Test system according to claim 1 wherein R_{10} is methyl.

3. (original) Test system according to claim 2 wherein said indicator is Bromothymol Blue.

4. (currently amended) Method for the determination of the presence of an antibiotic in a fluid comprising the steps of:

a) contacting a sample of said fluid with a test medium comprising a microorganism, at least one substance that provides a solid state and an indicator;

(b) incubating the microorganism for a period of time to grow the microorganism in case no antibiotic is present in the fluid sample; and

(c) detecting growth or inhibition of growth of the microorganism with the indicator, characterized in that said test system is a test system according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1.

5. (original) Method according to claim 4 wherein the antibiotic to be determined is a β -lactam antibiotic.

6. (currently amended) Method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 5~~ claim 4 wherein the fluid in which antibiotics are to be determined is a fluid obtainable from an animal or human body.

7. (currently amended) Method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~ claim 4 wherein the ratio of the volume of said fluid to the volume of test medium exceeds 0.68:1.

8. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 7~~ claim 4, wherein the ratio of the volume of liquid sample to the volume of test medium exceeds 20:27 (0.74:1) (v/v), 25:27 (0.93:1) (v/v) or 2:1 (v/v).

9. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 8~~ claim 4, wherein the volume of liquid sample is greater than the volume of test medium.

10. (original) Kit suitable for the determination of an antibiotic in a fluid comprising a container partially filled with a test medium comprising a microorganism, a

gelling agent and an indicator, characterized in that said indicator is a compound with the general formula (I).

11. (original) Kit according to claim 8 further comprising nutrients suitable for allowing the microorganism to grow.

12. (currently amended) Kit according to ~~any one of claims 10 to 11~~ claim 10, further comprising a thermostatic device, with the aid of which test samples can be kept at a pre-set temperature.

13. (currently amended) Kit according to ~~any one of claims 10 to 12~~ claim 10, further comprising a data carrier loaded with a computer program suitable for instructing a computer to analyze digital data obtained from a sample-reading device.

14. (original) Use of a compound having the general formula (I) as indicator in a test system for an antibiotic.

15. (original) Use according to claim 14 wherein the antibiotic is a β -lactam antibiotic.